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PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION.

An Equipoise Chair for the use of Hospitals and Invalids, Comprising the Apparatus of a Wheel-couch, Table, Chair, and Bed.

I CALEB LOADER of Coylton Terrace Wincanton in the County of Somerset, Gentleman, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

1. The object my invention has for its value, is, its usefulness;—I describe it further as a drawing room swing-couch rotating equipoise-chair, an equipment for invalids
5 and for affording relief and comfort to the human body, generally; comprising a rotating wheel couch, table, chair, and bed complete in one ornamental equipage, for the cottage drawing room, or mansion, and for use in infirmary wards, public & private institutions hospitals, *etc.*:—And as fixtures for railway compartments, ships cabins, and other saloons, workhouse wards, prisons, and barracks; or the garden,
10 lawns, and sea side as perambulators.

2. Its mechanical and general construction embodies the work of art, centred in the focus of self-action carries on its swing reclining axis, an equality of weight, the state in which the two ends or sides are balanced affording ease to the afflicted, a comfort to the aged & infirm, a luxury to the healthy, a support for giving soothing
15 rest, and to renovate the worn-out, tired, and weary soul of the body of the human frame.

3. The apparatus may be constructed either with or without perambulating gearing:—As a wheel-chair apparatus it combines a rotating treddle movement, or hand gearing movement in combination for varying its location and scenery, and other
20 conveniences: The apparatus is fitted with leg-rests of an ingenious device having folding sections to extend the rests to tall persons (as to fold up when un-used, and slide behind the legs), for use to either right or left legs, or both, with double or single action, for injured limbs enabling pillows or cusheons to be adjusted to ease the person.

25 4. The application of the apparatus is for enabling the person of the invalid, without assistance, or removing from the chair, to rest in recumbency by the balance of the body in the adjustment of the chair, on a self-acting swing axis, regulating itself at reclining angles; the æsthetic motion is perceptible only in adjusting the desired recumbency by force of the hands clasping the arms of the
30 apparatus; namely:—

5. After being seated the action of the apparatus lifts the feet and legs from off *terra-firma* while retaining a sitting posture, to an even elevation, gently placing the patient in recumbency, the lowering the body, and raising the feet & legs parallel one with the other, converging to the horizontal reclining posture desired, to that of the
35 level of a bed;—This is all performed by the simple action of the hand clasping the arms of the apparatus on the balance of even axis, and but with slight apparent motion susceptible with the movement of the body: And again permitting the patient, at will, to resume a sitting posture, if at frequent intervals of time, change and relief are needed, without removing from the seat.

40 6. The equipoise, as a chair-bed or a recumbent chair-of-ease, & of comfort, is a valuable adjunct, and a boon, as in sickness, so in health;—It possesses a marvel of soothing comfort, alike, to the nervous system, and is an invaluable invalid apparatus, alike, for the infirmary, cottage, or mansion: And, an especial luxury as a gentlemen's lounge, or smoking chair, affording in self-possession of thought, in quietude, for
45 home comforts, the voiding a desire from roaming abroad.

7. The designation of descriptive title to the invention is an improved equipoise chair-of-comfort for the use of hospitals & invalids, as described:—Its fittings comprise in one apparatus, a wheel couch, table, chair and bed, the furniture, in

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substitution of a suite of numerous articles usual for the sick chamber, these are conveniently embodied in the apparatus, for the anti-drawing room replete with it, is its moveable table board, its fittings to the frame, on arms, enable placing meals, writing material, articles of work, reading, books, *etc.* As ordinary rest chairs with equipoise seats, on castors, only, for ladies (the new equipoise chair) drawing room. 5

8. The equipoise adjustment of these chairs couches have an especial designed form of recumbency for the comfort of ladies by the inventor extending the arms of the apparatus, in a circular manner down to the foot-board, provides for encasing their dresses & feet:—The platform of the apparatus is designed to rise simultaneously as the body reclines without altering its position which secures the privacy of the person & dress enclosed consistently with that privacy which is distinguishingly favorable to ladies comfort, and thus the equipoise recumbency of the chair is admirably adapted for ladies use, or if made with equipoise seats only, without rising platforms. These platforms may be substituted for detached foot-rests as also to perambulate the apparatus as an equipoise chair on cycle wheels with treddle movement for cut door travelling exercise. 10 15

9. What I believe to be original, and new in my invention, is its combination of parts, and forming as a whole, and in part, a self adjustable apparatus; having its balance equipoise regulator swung in its frame-work in a manner so as to rotate the whole apparatus at the convenience of its occupant, thus indicating the invention altogether one of invaluable study, for usefulness, producing a much needed accomplishment in the success, for introduction to the invalid, a hospital-rotating-recumbent-chair-bed-equipoise:—Thus giving to it a local habitation and a name, the virtue of comfort, alike, to the invalid, the aged, the infirm; a humane personnel; its title; for claims to novelty. 20 25

Dated, Wincanton, this 18th day of November 1889.

CALEB LOADER.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

An Equipoise Chair for the use of Hospitals and Invalids, Comprising the Apparatus of a Wheel-couch, Table, Chair, and Bed. 30

I, CALEB LOADER of Coylton Terrace Wincanton in the County of Somerset Gentleman do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

(c.) The nature of this invention consists in the construction of an equipoise chair couch shewn in Fig. 1. of drawings having reference to this Specification. 35

Its principle consists of a balance chair swung on pivots N. on each side, having two sections shewn in drawings Figs. 1. and 2. The inner frame see L. or ambulance section of the chair couch is fitted either with a hammock cushion, or, on a wire fabric spring bed, (M.) stretched from head to seat, forms the seat and back of the chair couch and somewhat resembles an ordinary chair having leg rests, (R) of an ingenious device with folding sections to extend the rests to tall persons (as to fold up when unused to slide behind the legs) & for use to either right or left legs, or both, with double or single action, for injured limbs enabling cushions to be adjusted to ease the person. 40 45

The drawing L. shews the connecting arrangements of the ambulance section of the chair with Fig. 2. as it is lifted over the outer frame O and lowered down it fits into sockets (p.) on each side guided angularly into the lower bevil of a triangle for axis.

In Fig. 2. there is shewn in the drawing a table (q.) fitted on the arms of frame with thumb screws for opening out horizontal changes from either arm (right & left) as convenience may require, is hereafter explained for *modus operandi*. 50

(d.) The equipoise adjustment of the chair couch consists in the evenness of action on the balance of the body of the person reclining in the chair, from the verticle to the horizontal recumbent position desired, whereby its occupant, whether 55

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convalescent or invalid may recline in unsurpassed comfort without exertion, shews its value for medical science, to hospitals, &c., as also its uses for home nursing of the sick-poor, and private comforts for the cottage and mansion, in one useful article of furniture, which comprises, replete, a wheel-couch, table, chair, and bed.

5 (e.) My invention of the equipoise couch chair claims to embody its principle for its operative value and general usefulness of construction to embrace its commercial value within its full, literal, and true meaning, declared, and made apparent, consequent on its derivation operating on the title word "equipoise" for producing the quality of evenness of axis, conjointly with its outer frame connecting with it, the
10 seat of the couch: with the person reclining on it, in a sitting or horizontal posture upon "an equality of weight: a state in which the two ends or sides, are balanced": (1). This forms its first and fundamental principle for obtaining ease when verging from the perpendicular posture of ordinarily sitting in a chair, to the horizontal couch on its semi-axis without a removal from the seat, has emanated from a close
15 practical study, for ascertaining its normal effect to the nervous system of the human body upon the equipoise application to mechanical science: (2). This indicates the fundamental principles of the equipoise chair operating equivalent to its mandate for preventive as a cure to lunacy, the presentiment aims to testify, in name, for title claimed herein, and which denotes having an adjustable regulating balance
20 for the mind and body when reclining from chair to couch, and *vice versa* couch to chair. (3). Notwithstanding position of sitting remains unaltered, the reclining posture of the person acting in the balance forms the chair bed: having a table fitted to the arms of the apparatus for partaking meals, reading *etc.* (4). The table opens off from a set-screw reversible from either side, (right or left) to admit of exit from
25 the chair.

(f.) I further describe the usefulness of the apparatus as being a suitable and valuable chair companion, for the sick-poor, serving at their own homes, if supplied to them by the aid of philanthropic institute benevolence: As these sick-poor equipoise couch chairs (when made plain, in material, in regard to economy and
30 cheapness,) are fitted upon castors only, without cycle wheels, upon the same principle claimed for the drawing room swing couch, and rotating equipoise cycle chair.

(g.) This equipment for invalids, in the invention designed, gives an immense relief in comfort to the human body, generally, whether in sickness or health it is a
35 most valuable and suitable companion for soothing and composing and renovating the nervous system, both body and mind, is emitted, by the change derivable on the semi-axis of its equipoise action by the gentle composing movement from one angular altitude in scenery to the other, thus forming in value for usefulness, a unique apparatus, in one article of furniture, whether made with or without cycle machinery
40 comprises in itself the modification of a couch, table, chair, and bed suitable for the cottage drawing room, mansion, infirmary wards of public and private institutions, as a hospital chair, especially facilitating the acquisition in its development for rendering valuable assistance to trained nurses attending on the homes of the sick in conjunction with benevolent aid from national institutions:—These particulars describe the
45 ascertained nature of my said invention shewing that my hospital chair possesses all the advantages I claim for it, to gain success upon its own merits.

(h.) The equipoise of the chair is so constructed as to combine separable parts, or sections, that is to say into two parts, by disjointure, one part forms the couch chair, seat, and folding leg-rests section, and the other part forms its outer-frame on wheels,
50 or castors, for the carriage, the former part may receive from, or take the patient to the bed-side, portable, for carrying the invalid up and down stairs, when disjointed.

CLAIMS.

Having thus particularly described the general principles of my said invention and the manner of performing the same, I have to state that I do not restrict myself to
55 any precise details herein other than those given, described, or delineated, hereinbefore

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mentioned, but that what I believe and claim to be new and original in respect to my said equipoise couch chair, I claim under the following heads.

1 :—I claim first, the general operative principle of my invention to be embodied within the title to the invention "equipoise" to encompass the merits of my said invention within the uses of the apparatus having its literal and true meaning embodied for Letters Patent rights upon the derivation of that adjective noun, to carry "an equality of weight : in a state in which the two ends or sides are balanced."

2 :—The distinctive feature of novelty claimed is its general construction of parts, and forming as a whole, and in part, a self adjustable equipoise apparatus, having its balance operating on semi-axis.

3 :—I claim the arrangement of fitting its outer frame in such a manner as to be detached from its socket, that will carry the person of the invalid in a portable ambulance up and down stairs on the ambulance section of the apparatus.

4 :—I claim the connecting equipoise arrangement of these sections as forming one wheel chair in a manner to propel the whole apparatus on two or more cycle wheels in one complete article of furniture when reclining horizontally or the patient sits upright on the bed couch chair, whilst having its movable curved table board fitted with thumb screws on the arms of apparatus forming the table, to turn on either side (right or left) as described.

5 :—I claim the foregoing arrangements to form the equipoise principle of my invention operative for cycling purposes, as a cycle apparatus for convalescents travelling exercise on the roads.

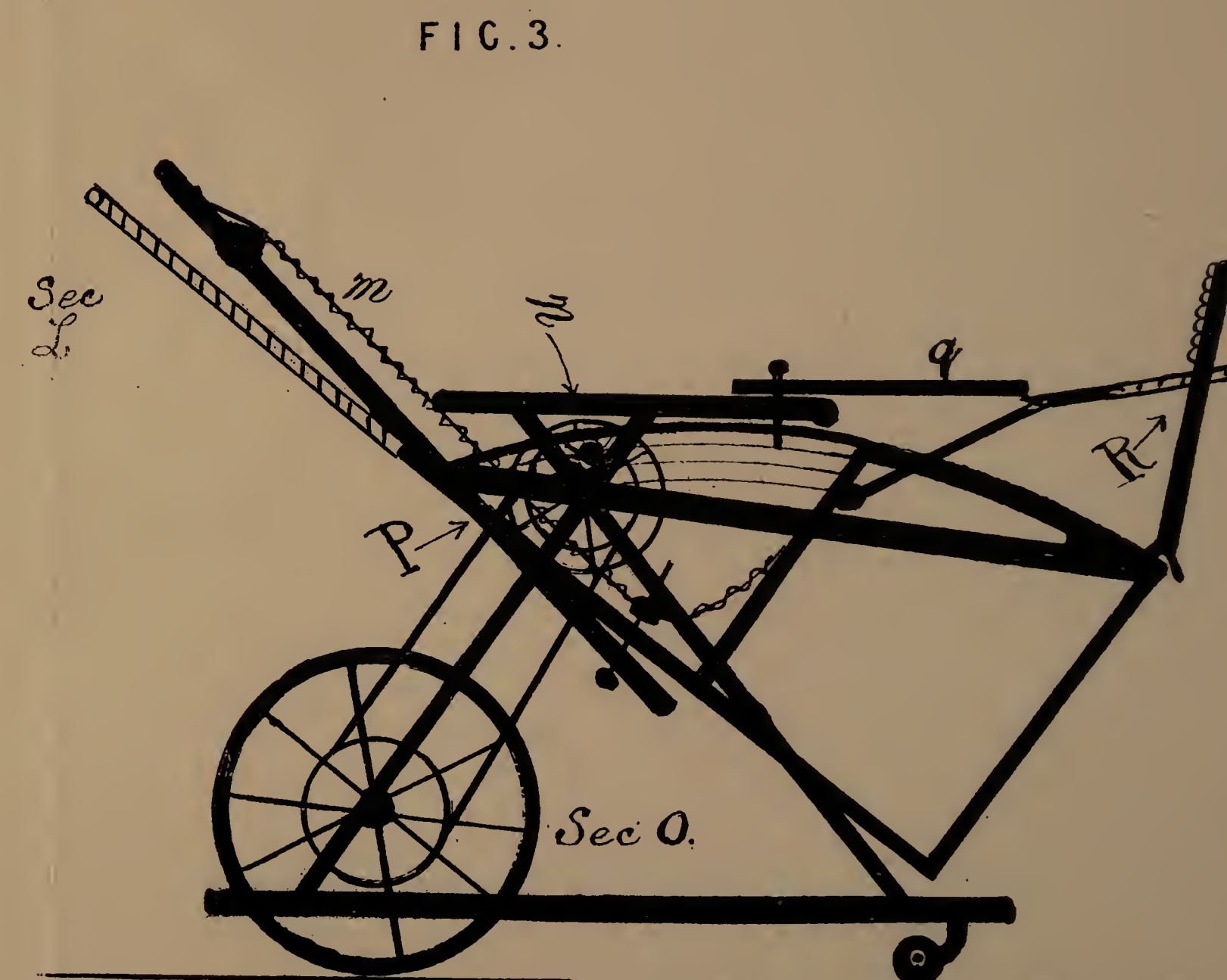
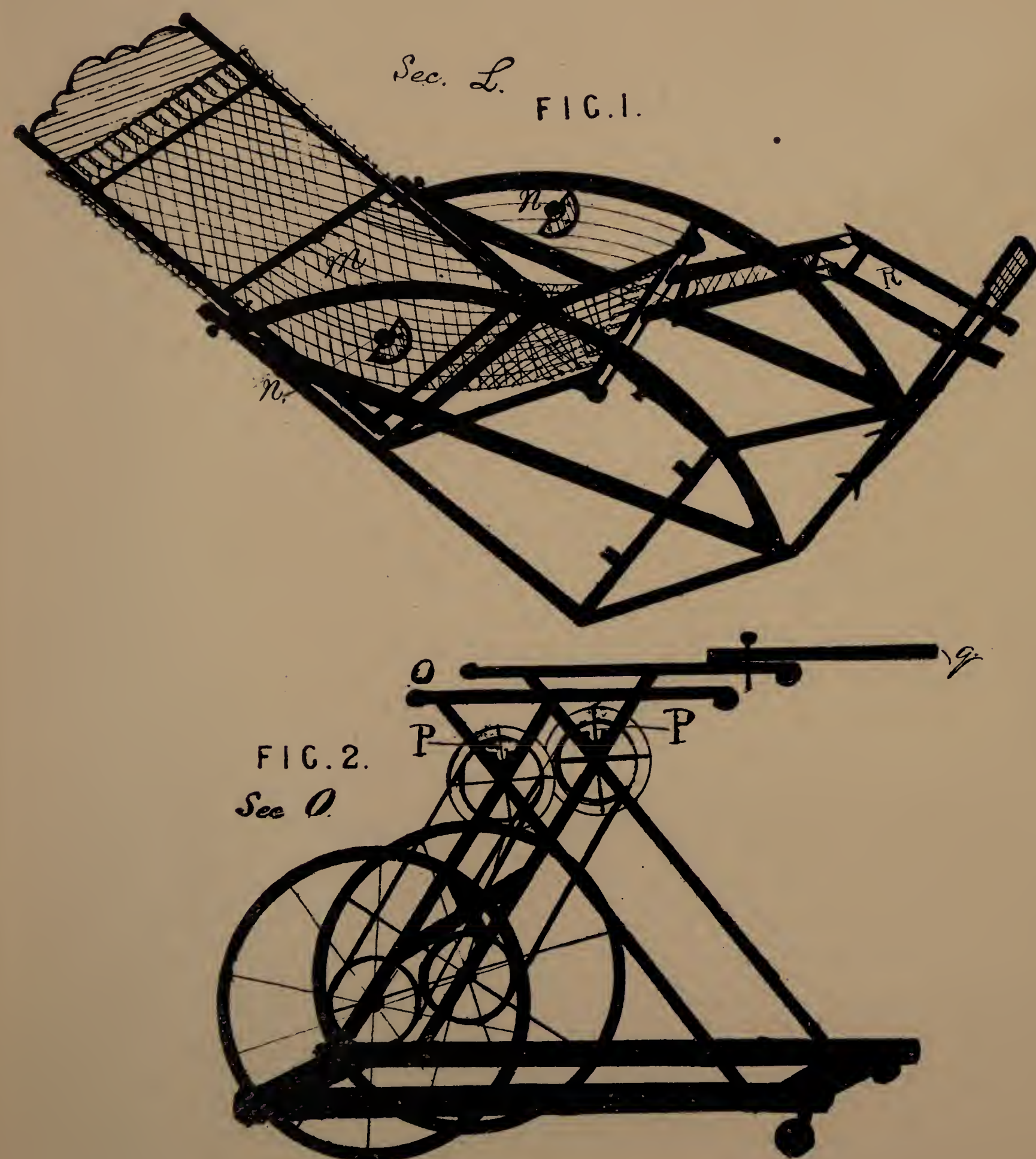
6 :—I claim lastly : The general construction of the apparatus whereby its adaptibility is favorable to the home nursing of sick-poor at their own homes, and as an equipoise drawing room chair-of-ease, which arrangements combine invertible leg-rests ingeniously folded ready for use fitted to the apparatus :—The whole being substantially described as a wheel chair, couch, table, and bed in one unique article of furniture.

In witness whereof I, the said Caleb Loader have hereunto set my hand and seal this Nineteenth day of July One thousand eight hundred and ninety.

CALEB LOADER.

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[This Drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale]

